



MORE RAINFALL NEEDED

Scattered showers moved across the State last week leaving some crops replenished, while others were still very dry. Despite these typical summertime showers, crop and pasture conditions continued to decline and rain is still needed in most areas. Soybeans were setting pods at a rate over a week ahead of the normal pace. Additionally, some of the earliest planted acres had begun to drop leaves. Virtually all of the State's cotton acreage was setting bolls, with these bolls opening at a pace slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. Tobacco growers continued topping and harvest had begun in earnest. Corn harvest for grain began on a very limited basis and should pick-up rapidly over the next ten days. The other main farm activities for the State included cutting hay, fungicide and insecticide application, and harvesting corn silage and vegetables.

There were 5 days considered suitable for fieldwork. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 17 percent very short, 35 percent short, 47 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 14 percent very short, 37 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures across the State continued to be above normal last week. Precipitation across Western portions of the State and the Plateau averaged below normal, while Eastern and Middle Tennessee averaged above normal.

CROP PROGRESS: Through August 21, 2005					CONDITION: On August 19, 2005						
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc	
			Percent				Percent				
Corn - Dent	93	79	96	88	Corn	2	8	30	50	10	
Corn - Mature	27	12	33	34	Soybeans	4	12	30	45	9	
Corn - Silage Harvested	44	28	53	53	Cotton	0	5	25	52	18	
Soybeans - Setting Pods	97	93	88	81	Tobacco	2	4	29	55	10	
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	7	n/a	2	3	Pastures	4	19	40	34	3	
Cotton - Bolls Opening	5	3	8	11							
Tobacco Topped	81	74	87	84							
Burley Tobacco Harvested	24	17	34	29							
Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	34	25	32	31							
Air-Cured Tobacco Harvested	32	17	38	32							

n/a = Not Available

CORN: Producers were busy preparing combines and grain bins in anticipation of starting harvest next week. With over one-fourth of the State's corn for grain mature, slightly behind the normal pace, the crop is rated in mostly good-to-fair condition. Corn for silage harvest is approaching the halfway mark.

COTTON: The State's cotton crop slowly progressed this last week, continuing to be slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. There was some limited spraying for insects. Seventy percent of the acreage was rated in good-to-excellent condition.

SOYBEANS: Soybean development picked-up speed during the past week and continued to progress ahead of schedule. A few fields were turning color and starting to drop leaves. Scattered showers provided relief in some areas but overall, conditions continued to decline and the crop was rated as mostly good-to-fair. Frogeye leaf spot was reported in some fields.

TOBACCO: Just under one-fifth of the crop remains to be topped and harvest is in full swing. The crop was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition with few problems reported.

PASTURES & HAY: Some producers will not be able to get a second or third cutting without another good rainfall. Pasture conditions continued to deteriorate last week, but were rated as mostly fair-to-good.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: Early apples were reported in fair condition and tomatoes were in mostly good condition with some diseases showing up.

County Agent Quote

"Scattered showers and thunderstorms brought relief to some parts of the county while other parts continue to bake. Temperatures continue to hover around the 100 degree mark which has had a negative effect on crop/pastures conditions especially with limited rainfall."

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: August 21st, 2005(with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending August 21, 2005				Current Week 08/21/05	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN				Total	DFN	
Ames_Plantation	101	67	85	+8	0.33	2	33.58	-0.73	1954	+119
Tri-City_RGNL_A	93	68	79	+6	1.90	4	29.16	+1.61	1384	+134
Brownsville_TN	100	72	86	+8	0.51	2	30.71	-3.67	2041	+419
Chattanooga/Lov	96	71	83	+6	2.14	3	35.59	+0.42	1868	+147
Clarksville_Sew	96	71	83	+7	1.68	6	29.08	-4.01	1918	+285
Cookeville	95	68	81	+6	0.82	4	30.77	-6.76	1526	+504
Covington	99	71	84	+8	0.19	1	30.69	-2.84	1881	+7
Crossville_AP	90	66	78	+6	0.68	3	33.08	-3.99	1359	+197
Dickson_AG	95	68	81	+5	2.27	4	31.61	-3.66	1593	-116
Dover_1W	98	71	84	+9	0.41	2	27.26	-7.03	1768	+321
Dyersburg	100	72	86	+8	0.27	2	27.43	-5.37	2050	+58
Erwin_1W	92	68	79	+8	2.47	4	32.70	-0.79	1272	-221
Huntingdon_Wate	96	71	83	+7	3.10	5	32.94	-1.36	1839	+291
Jackson_Exp_Stn	98	71	85	+8	0.98	3	35.49	+1.39	1943	+159
Kingston_AG	93	68	80	+7	0.73	2	37.41	-1.46	1568	+226
Knoxville_AP	94	71	82	+6	0.88	2	28.78	-3.24	1730	+235
Lewisburg	99	65	82	+7	0.26	3	31.37	-4.85	1669	+155
Lexington_TN	98	72	84	+7	0.24	2	31.64	-1.69	1789	+691
Linden	98	70	84	+8	0.50	3	29.70	-6.91	1747	+227
Martin	98	70	84	+8	1.16	4	29.07	-5.57	1866	+148
Mc_Minnville_Tn	95	70	82	+7	1.55	3	28.83	-6.46	1717	-182
Memphis_AG	100	73	87	+6	0.00	0	32.59	-1.01	2074	-143
Milan	98	68	83	+7	2.65	5	33.16	-2.11	1812	+136
Murfreesboro_5N	97	69	83	+7	1.37	3	31.26	-3.60	1792	-91
Nashville_Metro	98	71	85	+7	3.35	2	29.01	-2.37	2008	+220
Newcomb	94	65	79	+8	1.47	4	36.19	-0.20	1458	+364
Oneida	93	67	80	+8	1.44	6	32.86	-3.53	1457	-145
Pikeville	93	69	81	+6	1.26	3	28.16	-7.10	1620	+143
Portland_TN	96	69	82	+8	3.58	5	31.75	-2.38	1776	+300
Pulaski_Water_P	98	67	82	+5	0.70	4	33.75	-2.23	1653	-136
Savannah_6SW	98	67	83	+5	0.78	3	31.76	-5.48	1819	+250
Sparta_TN	96	67	82	+7	0.50	2	30.68	-5.72	1714	+439
Springfield	98	69	83	+8	1.76	4	30.24	-2.53	1722	+231
Springhill	100	67	84	+8	0.38	3	34.22	-2.14	1762	+251
Union_City	97	70	83	+7	0.27	6	30.37	-3.36	1742	+69
Waynesboro_TN	96	71	84	+9	0.42	4	30.21	-8.00	1703	-26

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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